(6) has the Government collected any interest from the contractor on any of these occasions; if so, when and what amount; what were the orders passed by Rao Bahadur P. Narayana Menon as Diwan about this matter?

Mr. K. Govinda Menon.—(1) Copies of agreements are placed on the Council Table.

(2) Since the timber of various coupe collection had been allowed and since the rates of these coupes were not one and the same, it is not possible to say the exact amount incurred. It is not also possible to trace out the names of all the coupes correctly. The highest rate was Rs. 6—8—0 and the lowest Rs. 4—8—0 a candy.

(3) (1) 270 candies.
(2) 382 ,,
(3) 2,275 ,,
(4) 282 ,,
(5) 642 ,,
(6) 427 ,,
(7) 355 ,,
(8) 2,474 ,,

(3) There was no such classification in all sales but only in one which is as follows:—

I. Nil.
II. 316 candies and odd.
III. 707 ,,
IV. 1,251 ,,

(5) 270 candies.
382 ,,
3,371 ,,
519 ,,
640 ,,
427 ,,
355 ,,
2,471 ,,

(6) No interest for items 1 and 2. For 3 to 8 interest has been claimed for delayed payments on the 13th and 29th of Karkadagam 1103. Rs. 1,099—4—8. There are no general orders of Diwan Mr. P. Narayana Menon on the question of interest.

Supply of rose-wood to Mr. Mugaseth.

198. **Mr. V. K. Kochunni Menon.**—(a) Will the Government be pleased to place on the Table of the House a copy of the agreement with Mr. Mugaseth dated 10th July or thereabout in 1925 for the supply of rose-wood or to state the terms thereof;

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(b) what was the total quantity of timber supplied under that contract giving the quantity under each of the 4 classes referred to in the contract;

(c) what was the total expenditure incurred by the Government for felling and collecting that timber at the place of delivery;

(d) what was the hill depot measurement of those logs;

(e) when were those logs delivered and when was the price paid;

(f) were the amounts paid on the due dates according to the contract, and if not, what was the interest collected from the contractor, if any?

Mr. K. Govinda Menon.—(a) For a copy of the agreement referred to vide answer to sub-division (1) of question No. 197.

(b) Candies 2,275.

(2) I. Nil.
II. 316 candies and odd.
III. 707.
IV. 1,251.

(c) Vide answer to sub-division 2 of question No. 197.

(d) 3,371 candies.

(e) Delivery between 14th Thulam 1100 and 19th Karkadagam 1102.

Paid in Karkadagam 1100
Do 1101
Chingam 1102
Do 1103

(f) 1. Not paid on due dates.
2. Interest realised:—

1100	Rs.	48	5	6
1101	Rs.	123	12	8
1102	Rs.	138	1	6

Mr. V. K. Kochunni Menon.—From the agreement placed on the Table, it is seen that the value of timber is to be paid according to the Hill Depot measurement; and from the answer it is seen that the Hill Depot measurement was 3,371 candies but that is sold as 2,275 candies. There seems to be very great difference. The difference is more than 50 per cent. When the agreement was to deliver and to pay according to the Hill Depot measurement, I do not know how there can be such difference.

Mr. K. Govinda Menon.—There was a Diwan's order to give such an allowance.

Mr. V. K. Kochunni Menon.—My question is why there was such difference?

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Mr. K. Govinda Menon.—On account of the defects in the logs.

Mr. V. K. Kochunni Menon.—But the agreement is to pay according to the Hill Depot measurement, whereas the value was paid at this smaller measurement.

Mr. K. Govinda Menon.—It was on the Diwan's express orders.

Mr. V. K. Kochunni Menon.—Was it on the report of the Conservator that such an allowance should be given?

Mr. K. Govinda Menon.—No. It was done on his own accord.

Mr. A. B. Salem.—Diwans do not interfere without a recommendation of a Head of a Department.

Mr. T. K. Krishna Menon.—Has the Member any right to speak now?

President.—But the party applied to the Diwan.

Mr. K. Govinda Menon.—Yes.

President.—Did the Diwan make a reference to the Conservator?

Mr. K. Govinda Menon.—No.

199. Mr. V. K. Kochunni Menon.—(a) Will the Government be pleased to state whether there was a subsequent agreement with Mugaseth to sell 2,000 candies or thereabout (of rose-wood) in 1102 or 1103 and if so, whether a copy of the same can be placed on the Table of the House;

(b) was the contract given after calling for tenders or by private negotiation;

(c) what was the total quantity delivered or removed under that contract specifying the number of each of the sizes referred to therein;

(d) when was delivery made or timber removed by the contractor;

(e) has the contractor paid the full value of the said timber, and if not, what is the amount remaining due to the Government at the beginning of 1104?

Mr. K. Govinda Menon.—(a) Yes. For a copy of the agreement referred to vide answer to sub-division (1) of question No. 197.

(b) By private negotiations.

(c) Logs, 1,954 candies.
Toplings, 520 candies.

(d) 1103.

(e) Out of the total amount of Rs. 40,351—11—3 due by the firm an amount of Rs. 20,000 was realised in 1103 and the balance in Chingam 1104.

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